

# The Pocahontas Times.

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## POCAHONTAS TO THE FRONT

### THE MEMBER FROM POCAHONTAS CUTS THE GORDIAN KNOT

Once in a while, about once every blue moon, Pocahontas County comes to the front in State affairs. Owing to the action of the national committee in calling the convention at Chicago too early for West Virginia, we have been permitted to see some old time political maneuvering such as the primary law was designed to prevent.

In the first place Kanawha held a mass meeting and the republicans of that county felt over the question of whether there were more men on one side of a rope stretched across the room than on the other. They never did settle it satisfactorily to all concerned. It reminds us of a drunken controversy over a short deck of cards, where none of the disputants would agree to count the cards to see if it was short or not.

Then the congressional committee met to pass on the two sets of delegates named in Kanawha to go to Thurmond to hold the convention to nominate delegates at Chicago. There are six counties in the new sixth district. Each county has a member. Four came in person to attend the call, and two sent proxies, Greenbrier and Pocahontas. O. E. McKeever was the member from this county and he sent sheriff Cochran. Of the four who attended the Kanawha man and the Raleigh man were for Lilly and the Fayette man and the Boone man for Robinson. The committee voted two to two, not to approve the proxies, thereby registering desperation, as the moving picture folks say.

We never knew a proxy to be rejected at a committee meeting before. Sheriff Cochran came home, but McKeever took the train for Charleston and arrived there at 3 o'clock in the morning and found the committee still in session and still deadlocked. This hour is not considered so late in Charleston as it is here. McKeever, being from Pocahontas where both parties have manfully thrown out peanut politics, straightened things out and arranged the temporary roll for the Thurmond convention and selected its chairman. George W. Sharp, of this county, was selected as temporary chairman, and as he is built like a football player, he proved to be the right man for the right place.

When the convention assembled at Thurmond on Tuesday, the delegates all commenced to bay at the moon. They finally held two conventions in the same hall and adjourned. It was apparent the Robinson men had a majority in Kanawha, Boone, Greenbrier and Pocahontas and Lilly a majority in Raleigh and Fayette.

Probably an orderly convention in which it was possible to count noses, would have shown delegates to have stood in number about two to one in Robinson's favor. It must be a bitter pill to Lilly to find that his own congressional district is not under his con-

trol. We can say this much for the proceedings in this district, that so far as the Pocahontas men are concerned that they stand for straight politics and that they are always willing to stand up and be counted, and to abide by the result. We have had too many skirmishes with them not to know, and we are doing them justice in speaking for their fairness. Just now they seem to be under the Robinson flag, but Robinson is the kind of man that naturally appeals to Pocahontas people.

Several weeks ago a news item was seen in a St. Louis paper to the effect that Theodore and wife, of Kansas, had met with a misfortune and both had lost their lives. The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Moore of Arkansas City, Kansas, were made anxious, though no word came to them direct. This week, however, T. D. Moore received the following letter from his cousin which brings the welcome news that all is well with himself and family and that they are fixing to come back on a visit.

"I was glad to receive your short letter, but sorry if my friends are having any uneasiness about me, for we are all alive and quite well. Had some sickness during the winter but nothing of a serious nature. You can tell my friends that we are just whetting our appetites and expect to be back to eat some of those fine dinners, such as we had when we were there. Am inclined to think the accident part a joke.

THEO. MOORE.

S. L. Brown, local weather server for the U. S. Weather Bureau, records but one clear day in the whole month of April, 22 partly cloudy and 7 cloudy. The average high temperature was 55 degrees and the average low was 33 degrees; the hottest was 78 degrees on the 20th and the lowest was 22 degrees on the 11th; the greatest daily range was 42 degrees on the 20th. There was snowfall to the amount of ten inches, the heaviest of any month of the winter, less than three feet of snow being recorded up to the first of the month. The total rain fall was 3.10 inches. 81 inches having fallen on the 25th. Thunder storm on the 21st and some hail. Rain fell on nine days.

Mrs. Leroy Fenton and little daughter of Durbin, who have been in the city, guests at the home of Mrs. Fenton's mother, Mrs. Blaine W. Taylor, left this morning for Pittsburgh to consult a specialist relative to a slight trouble which the little one has with one of its legs.—Elkins Inter-Mountain.

Louis Klein has sold a half interest in his department store, and expects to move to Baltimore. The purchaser is Simon Schuchat, who will have charge of the business. Mrs. Schuchat will be remembered as Miss Sara Schwartz, who was in the store a number of years.

## ALCOHOL AND CRIME

### AN ESSAY READ BY MISS AMY BURNS IN W. C. T. U. HIGH-SCHOOL CONTEST

For ages the human race has had a firm belief in the value of alcohol and has regarded it as one of the special blessings of heaven. This belief has been upheld by the opinions of medical men of all time and countries. In text books it has been taught that alcohol aids digestion and prolongs life. The scientific basis of these opinions has been questioned and science is now revealing that this so-called "blessing" is one of the greatest curses and darkest blots on the fair pages of our history.

Drink weakens moral resistance. It silences the voice of conscience. By stupefying the intellect, it obliterates the moral sense. Accordingly all sense of right and wrong become strangely confused and cease to represent moral obligations even moral distinction. No rational appeal can deter from further indulgence in drink, nor from consenting to immoral acts, even to the commission of crime which, the soul, free from the degrading influence of drink, would scorn to consider. This is the cause of crimes which crowd the calendars of the courts and columns of the daily papers.

The rapid development of America has not been unaccompanied by danger. The segregation of people in cities gives opportunity for crime unknown in rural districts. There we find all classes, all condition, and all nationalities of mankind.

Drink is responsible for the ruin of sixty thousand girls each year. They are taken to the dance halls, theaters, wine suppers, beer gardens; finally to saloons, upon steamboat excursions, and Sunday beer picnics. Drink is everywhere; intellect is stupefied; conscience is hushed; moral resistance is paralyzed; a brief few years of sin and suffering generally begins and ends this awful tragedy. Close beside the saloon are the gambling den and the haunt of the scariest women.

Dr. Brown says, "One hundred thousand yearly begin a life of crime because of drink." This ghastly fact excites no wonder. Why should it? Does not drink rob one both of the desire and the capacity for earning an honest living? Do not drink and drunkenness furnish the incentives and moral conditions for the commission of crime?

Some time ago, when the flood swept over the Ohio and Miami valleys, devastating thousands of land and rendering many people homeless, the hearts of 96,000,000 people went out to them in sympathy, while the fact that the liquor traffic annually destroys 100,000 of the young men of our country is looked upon with the coldest complacency. We call ourselves an enlightened people, but it seems we are greatly mistaken; even China when fully aroused to the effect of opium was having upon her people, banished it from her borders.

How then can Christian America afford to nurture and keep this most deadly of serpents within this "wonderful" country of ours, blasting the young manhood of our country, and sending many thousands to a convict cell, and drunkard's grave annually?

Petty crimes, and crimes of impulse and emotion especially, are characteristic of a alcoholicism. The occasional drinker is more likely to commit crime of impulse than the steady drinker, whose consciousness of right and wrong is palsied it is true, but who is too sodden or inanimate to respond to the sources of acute brain excitation. Fully seventy percent of crimes of impulse, brutality and emotion are committed by persons whose brain is alcoholized. The central organs of control are out of use for the time being and at such time certain subjects are very dangerous. Excessive indulgence in alcohol often so lessens the earning capacity of the victim that sooner or later he cannot obtain the wherewithal to purchase his enemy. Alcoholism is often a cause of crime so plain and direct that he who runs may read.

The Committee of Fifty affirmed that the condition of thirty percent of the destitute children is charged to the excessive use of alcohol by their parents, and so must be charged to the liquor traffic; that twenty percent of the abject poverty, twenty-five percent of insanity, and thirty percent of crime are due to intemperance, and as such must be charged to the liquor traffic.

Hon. Fred O. Blue, Prohibition Commissioner of West Virginia, vouches for the statement that since prohibition went into effect July 1, 1914, there has been fifty percent decrease in crime and

seventy-five per cent decrease in drunkenness in our "Little Mountain State."

From Gov. George H. Hodges message, "Kansas' Great Progress under Prohibition," we learn that Kansas, once called the "American Desert" has now 34,000,000 acres under cultivation, that the state has only 724 inmates in the penitentiary, while Colorado, a "wet" state with a population half as large has 800 Kansas boys only 214 boys in the State Reformatory and of this number, only eighty-four are Kansas boys. Kansas can balance 2,900 prosperous, self-supporting citizens against every pauper in the State. Is not this sufficient proof that Temperance fosters prosperity and lessens crime?

Here the laymen must stand aside and listen while the medical expert speaks. Dr. Williams, one of the eminent physicians of our day, reached the conclusion, that alcohol must be responsible for about four fifths of the anti social propensities that make necessary the higher police systems, criminal courts, jails, prisons and reformatories, that constitute so serious a blot upon present day civilization. A statement that alcohol is not a food but a poison, has been signed by ninety-five German physicians, thirty-five Swiss, seventeen Austrian, and by enough English and American to bring the total number up to eight hundred. (This in 1903.) Does not this show that the medical men awakening to the great responsibility they owe to God and man, and the intimate relation existing between alcohol and crime?

We do not believe anyone can candidly study the subject of alcohol with realizing the crime and attendant evils caused by it. It covers the land in misery, idleness, and crimes, violates obligations, reverence, fraud, honors infamy. It burns up men and consumes women, detests life, curses God and despises heaven. It suborns villainess, nurses perjury, defies the jury box and stains the judicial ermine. It does that and more—it destroys the soul. It is the sum of all evils, the father of all crimes, the mother of all abominations, the devil's best friend and God's worst enemy.

## BUCKEYE

Nice weather we are having now—good for the farmers; grass is growing nicely and the candidates and worms are showing up.

E. F. McLaughlin passed thro' Buckeye shaking hands and kissing babies. He was on his way to the lower end of the county. Mr. McLaughlin is good timber for the sheriff's place.

N. S. Duffield, our next representative in the legislature, was around a few days ago making up with the farmers. N. S. is a dandy all right.

Bill Gibson will make a good sheriff. Vote for John Curry for assessor.

Prospects are good for a crop of fruit this year. Service trees, peach trees and cherry trees all came in bloom at the same time—something we never saw before.

The cattle men are taking their cattle to the mountains.

Sowing oats is the go now. There is lots of measles in the community now.

Dr. Yeager was down to see Jake Webster; he has rheumatism.

As has been expected, J. F. Ashford is a candidate to succeed himself as a constable for Greenbank district. He has held the office one term and made good as a faithful public servant. The office of constable is an important one, very poorly paid, and when a man is found who will take the office and perform the duties required, it is a good plan to keep him in it.

Fred Moore has bought a Dodge roadster from the Hillsboro Garage, to be used on his rural free delivery route.

## THE TOWN COUNCIL

### CONTEMPLATING PAVING MAIN STREET FROM BRIDGE TO RAILROAD

At the meeting of the Town Council Monday night, the matter of paving Main street from the bridge to the railway was considered, and the matter referred to the committee on streets for report at a meeting of the council to be held on May 10th. Either concrete or brick paving will be considered, with preference to concrete, as that can be put down for much less money, and serve as a most excellent base for further improvement. Heretofore the town has paid for all street improvements out of taxes, but this very necessary improvement will require an outlay almost equal to the annual expense bill of the town, and in order to do the work the street tax must be augmented by an assessment upon property adjoining the street to be paved. The greater number of the property owners have signified their willingness to contribute their part.

An ordinance was passed requiring a license tax of \$2.00 on every \$100 on merchandise brought into the town to be sold at auction.

An ordinance was passed placing a penalty of ten per cent on all license taxes not paid when due.

A letter was read from the State Public Service Commission notifying the Marlinton Service Company to comply immediately the order of the Commission made last July to put their water line across the river to West Marlinton.

A number of bills were audited and allowed.

The town has been paying for 27 hydrants which appears to be two in excess of the actual number. Referred to water and light committee for investigation.

In the matter of the Mt. View Cemetery, the Council has decided to pay all current expenses from the money arising from the sale of lots; but not to reimburse cemetery fund for amounts expended for land, roads, surveying, markers, and other expenses. The cemetery money will be kept as a separate fund and will be used exclusively for cemetery uses, and in improving and beautifying the cemetery.

## DUNMORE

Rev K. D. Swecker and family left last week for his work at Peterstown.

Guy McLaughlin left this week for Ohio.

J. A. Cleeck and Lee McLaughlin were in town one night last week.

Don Nicholas is painting Reece Pritchard's house.

E. N. Moore and William Smith both lost good horses.

We have had some good weather and some of the roads should have been worked. The roads in Virginia have been worked up in good style. More of our roads are worked late in the summer and the dirt turns to dust then we have mud all winter.

Auctioneer Swecker made a successful sale for Brown Galford April 22nd. He will sell out Odes Gibson May 6th.

Died, at her home at Dunmore, Sunday morning April 23; Mrs. Jacob K. Taylor, aged 80 years. Mrs. Taylor leaves eleven children: George, Rev. John A. Dan, William, Ed. Frank, Harry, Mrs. Zinn, Mrs. Fowler, Mrs. Cook, and Mrs. Gilmore. Mrs. Taylor was one of our best women, a good neighbor a good church worker, and will be greatly missed by her friends. Interment at Dunmore beside her husband. Funeral service conducted by Rev. G. H. Echols.

James Wilfong has moved to his Glade Hill farm.

L. S. Cochran was up last week. Paul Golden of Marlinton, was

in town Tuesday in his new car.

The Hon. J. K. Wooddell of Roanoke, Va., was in town Monday buying wool and says the democrats are not all dead yet. Wool with tariff off has started at 35 cents; with the tariff on under the republican administration wool run from 15 cents to 23 cents. A cow hide on the free list would bring more money today than the hide and cow both under high tariff 8 or 10 years ago. If a man goes today with an empty dinner pail it is his own fault.

Mr. Deffenbaugh is moving to the Met Gum farm with his saw mill.

Mrs. Emma J. Fowler left for her home at Beverly Tuesday.

Mrs. John A. Pritchard has gone to Elkins for medical treatment.

The Warn railroad is completed nearly to Frost.

We notice quite a lot of new buildings going up at Cass and Raywood. F. Hamed has built a very large store house and warehouse at Cass, and has it filled to its full capacity.

A few days ago a school marm asked one of her pupils what a skeleton was. After meditating a little he said: "A man with his insides out and his out side off." Correct.

We had the pleasure of attending the Odd Fellow anniversary at Cass Saturday night. Rev. Mr. Eye, of Hillsboro, gave a fine talk to the Odd Fellow and Rebekah fraternities. A large crowd attended, and a fine night luncheon was served by the Rebekahs and the Cass friends. The order of Odd Fellowship is growing fast.

Capt. Swecker's big auction sale at Cass was well attended and he made a success of it. Everything was sold well. Sam Coyner moved to Virginia

**ROYAL BAKING POWDER**  
Absolutely Pure  
Made from Cream of Tartar  
NO ALUM—NO PHOSPHATE

this week.

The old big bear that was caught in a trap at Stony Bottom last week, has been roving this county for many years. His head would not go in a flour barrel. He tore down 16 rods of wire fence with the trap.

About forty Odd Fellows in a body attended the special service at the Methodist Church Sunday morning, the occasion being the 97th anniversary of the founding of the order.

Among those who expect to attend the State Sunday School Convention at Morgantown next week from Edray district are Rev. J. M. Walker, Rev. Geo. P. Moore, Mrs. C. V. Hamlin, Mrs. E. M. Arbogast, Miss Beatrice Sharp, Miss Lizzie Waugh, S. J. Rexrode, Squire Bird, G. W. Clark, C. J. Richardson.

## Marlinton General Hospital

**DR. HARRY C. SOLTER**  
Practice limited to Surgery, Diseases of Women and X Ray Treatments.

**DR. WILLIAM C. McCORD**  
Special attention to Treatment of Rheumatism and all Chronic Diseases.

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When you take pictures you want to take them RIGHT. It's laying up for the Future's supply of happy memories to photograph your family, your friends and your outings. Purchase your photographic outfit from us, and you will run NO RISK of LOSING your records on account of inferior materials. We carry only the best and freshest.

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THE SAN-TOX STORE



Jay Cooke



While a poor clerk in a Philadelphia bank he got his start to

wealth and honor by investing his own savings and practicing thrift. During the Civil war he raised one billion dollars for the federal government. Cooke was a great financier in his time.

You will need an accumulation of money sooner or later. You may want to buy a home, or make a profitable investment, or go to college, or save the life of a loved one stricken with disease.

Start an account with us with a part of your earnings this week. Add something to the deposit every week. Know the courage of prosperity and the independence of ready funds.

Multiply your money in our care.

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**SYDNOR MEANS BUSINESS**

Insure your property with  
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